

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 04691 01 OF 02 121823Z

41

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AS-01 OIC-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SP-02

USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 L-03 H-02 AF-08 EA-07

NEA-10 IGA-02 OES-06 FTC-01 JUSE-00 /135 W

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R 121530Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5045

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BOGOTA 4691

PASS TO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR FOR HOROWITZ, SEGALL, AVERY

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO XM

SUBJ: ECLA/ILO PREPARATORY MEETING ILO WORLD CONFERENCE, CARTA-
GENA, MAY 3-7, 1976: US DEL REPORT

1. SUMMARY. THE FOLLOWING IS THE US DELEGATION REPORT. TWENTY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S. AND FRANCE FROM OUTSIDE LATIN AMERICA, ATTENDED SUBJECT MEETING. COLOMBIAN LABOR MINISTER MARIA XX ELENA DE CROVO CHAIRED THE CONFERENCE AND THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE. MEXICO BEGAN MEETING WITH ABORTIVE ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE DISCUSSION OF ILO "BASIC NEEDS" DOCUMENT. IN ADDITION TO MEXICO, CUBA AND ECUADOR ATTACKED MANY OF THE ILO THESES, ALTHOUGH NEARLY ALL LATIN REPRESENTATIVES WERE CRITICAL OF THE ILO WORLD-WIDE APPROACH TO ATTACKING POVERTY. THE LATINS WILL PUSH FOR A REGIONAL APPROACH IN THE JUNE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE. DISCUSSIONS IN THE MEETING CENTERED ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. CONCLUSIONS APPEAR MORE FAVORABLE

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 04691 01 OF 02 121823Z

TOWARDS THE ILO AND ITS BASIC NEEDS DOCUMENT THAN WHAT WAS ACTU-

ALLY THE CASE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE LATINS VERY STRONGLY DENOUNCED THE ILO EMPHASIS ON LABOR INTENSIVE/INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES, CALLING INSTEAD FOR TRANSFERING TECHNOLOGY FROM DEVELOPED TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. IOMS. DELEGATION DISASSOCIATED U.S. FROM THE CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS BECAUSE THEY DEALT MAINLY WITH LATIN AMERICAN RATHER THAN WITH HEMISPHERE ISSUES. END SUMMARY

2. SUBJECT MEETING ELECTED FOLLOWING OFFICERS: CHAIRPERSON, MARIA ELENA DE CROVO, LABMIN OF COLOMBIA, VICE PRESIDENTS-- DELEGATES FROM MEXICO AND BOLIVIA; REPORTER-PERU; DRAFTING COMMITTEE-- FORMED WITHOUT ELECTION CONSISTED OF VENEZUELA, CUBA, SURINAM, AND COSTA RICA. TWENTY COUNTRIES WERE REPRESENTED, WITH U.S. AND FRANCE ONLY COUNTRIES FROM OUTSIDE LATIN AMERICA. CANADA WAS NOT PRESENT. MR. APPIAH PATHMARAJAH REPRESENTED THE ILO.

3. EARLY IN DISCUSSION PERIOD MEXICO MOVED TO ADOPT THE LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT (PREALC) DOCUMENT "THE EMPLOYMENT PROBLEM IN LATIN AMERICA" AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION, MAKING NO MENTION OF ILO WORLD CONFERENCE EMPLOYMENT "BASIC NEEDS" DOCUMENT ABOUT WHICH CONFERENCE WAS CONVENED. ONE ENTIRE DAY WAS SPENT SORTING OUT DELEGATES' VIEWS ON THE TWO DOCUMENTS, BEFORE REACHING DECISION TO DISCUSS ILO DOCUMENT. IN ADDITION TO MEXICO, CUBA AND ECUADOR ATTACKED THE ILO "BASIC NEEDS" DOCUMENT IN PARTICULARLY STRONG TERMS. NEARLY ALL PARTICIPANTS THOUGHT THE ILO DOCUMENT LACKED SUBSTANCE PERTINENT TO THE REGION. (IT IS CLEAR THAT THE LATINS WILL PUSH FOR A REGIONAL RATHER THAN WORLD-WIDE APPROACH TO THE "BASIC NEEDS" THEME IN THE ILO WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE IN JUNE.)

4. PROCEEDINGS THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE WERE DOMINATED BY MEXICO, CUBA, BRAZIL, PANAMA, HONDURAS, ECUADOR AND COLOMBIA. MEXICO, WHICH SEEMED AT TIMES DETERMINED TO UNDERMINE THE CONFERENCE, LOBBIED EFFECTIVELY WITH ECUADOR AND HONDURAS IN FAVOR OF ITS POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE PREALC DOCUMENT. AT ONE POINT ECUADOR UNSUCCESSFULLY PROPOSED MEXICO AS THE LATIN AMERICAN SPOKESMAN IN THE WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE. CUBA SUPPORTED THE MEXICAN PREALC INITIATIVE, PRIMARILY IT APPEARED, BECAUSE OF ITS REGIONAL EMPHASIS. WE WERE STRUCK BY THE LOW-LEVEL REPRESENTATION OF THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION WHICH OFFERED VERY LITTLE DURING THE PROCEED-

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PAGE 03 BOGOTA 04691 01 OF 02 121823Z

INGS. COLOMBIA'S DELEGATION APPEARED TO BE WELL PREPARED AND DID THE MOST TO KEEP THE CONFERENCE ON THE THEME. MS. DE CROVO DID AN EFFECTIVE JOB AS CHAIRPERSON.

5. MANY OF THE CONCLUSIONS (SUMMARIZED BELOW) WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL, SOME OF THEM REACHED WITHOUT ANY DEBATE AT ALL. THE LATINS WERE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH INTERNATIONAL MIGRATIONS, TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (TNCS) AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. THE

ILO "BASIC NEEDS STRATEGY" WAS GENERALLY IGNORED. ON TWO OCCASIONS THE MEXICANS TOOK ISSUE WITH THE ILO DOCUMENT'S REFERENCE TO NUMBERS OF UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS IN THE U.S. THE U.S. DELEGATION RESPONDED THE PRESIDENTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE ESTABLISHED COMMISSIONS TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM BILATERALLY. WITH NO ANALYSIS, DELEGATES LED BY CUBANS DENOUNCED TNCS AND CALLED FOR A REGIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT. TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY THEME EMPHASIZED LATIN INTEREST, REFLECTED IN CONCLUSIONS, IN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE IN CONTRAST TO ILO APPROACH STRESSING LABOR INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES AS MEANS OF STIMULATING EMPLOYMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

6. CONFEREES' CONCLUSIONS ON ILO "BASIC NEEDS" DOCUMENT, WHICH IN SOME INSTANCES APPEAR MORE FAVORABLE TO ILO THAN WHAT ACTUALLY IS THE CASE, RESULTED FROM CONSIDERABLE BEHIND THE SCENES ACTIVITY OF ILO REP PATHMARAJAH. FOLLOWING MEXICAN INITIATIVE ON THE PREALC DOCUMENT, PATHMARAJAH CONVINCED MS. DE CROVO IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS TO DIRECT CONFERENCE BACK TO FIVE STRATEGIES LISTED IN THE ILO REPORT.

7. THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE, ALSO CHAIRED BY MS. DE CROVO, CONTROLLED CONFERENCE RESULTS. ACCORDING TO PATHMARAJAH, DE CROVO DOMINATED THE COMMITTEE TO THE EXTENT THAT THE RATHER BLAND CONCLUSIONS LARGELY REFLECT HER INPUT. CUBANS WERE VERY SUBDUED DURING LAST DAY OF CONFERENCE, INDICATING THAT THEIR EFFORTS IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE WERE UNDERCUT BY DE CROVO, WHO REPORTEDLY AT ONE POINT TOLD THEM TO STOP POLITICKING AND TO STICK TO ISSUES.

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 04691 02 OF 02 121903Z

41

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AS-01 OIC-02 CIAE-00

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R 121530Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5046
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 BOGOTA 4691

PASS TO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR FOR HOROWITZ, SEGALL, AVERY

I. CONCLUSIONS WHICH WERE DRAWN UP FOR EACH OF THE ITEMS 1-5
FOUND IN CHAPTER II OF THE ILO DOCUMENT ARE SUMMARIZED: BACK-
GROUND. BEGINS WITH STATEMENT OF MAGNITUDE OF PROBLEM EMPHASIZING
URBAN AS WELL AS RURAL POVERTY, A REJECTION OF TRADITIONAL "TRIC-
KLE DOWN" STRATEGISK FOR DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT FOR ILO DOCUMENT
FOR LAUNCHING DISCUSSION AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ON DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIES.

ITEM 1 -- NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES -- SUPPORTS MEETING BAS-

IC NEEDS AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. BASIC NEEDS SHOULD BE DEFINED AT
REGIONAL LEVEL TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH COUN-
TRY. PROPOSES ILO CARRY OUT STUDIES AND TECHNICAL MEETINGS. ILO
PROPOSAL FOR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY WHICH EMPHASIZES LABOR INTEN-
SIVE/INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY PATH FOR DEVELOPMENT WAS IGNORED.
EMPHASIZES NEED FOR EACH COUNTRY TO DEVISE OWN PROGRAM. REAF-
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 04691 02 OF 02 121903Z

FIRMS "QUITO APPRAISAL" (REFERRING TO THE ECONOMIC COMISSION FOR
LATIN AMERICA (ECLA&(.3358,& 8, 1973) ON IMPORTANCE OF THE PUBLIC
SECTOR AND PLANNING POLICY. LISTS POSSIBLE POLICY INSTRUMENTS TO
ACHIEVE BASIC NEEDS OBJECTIVE, E.G., LAND REFORM, TAX REFORM.
STRESSES DETERMINATION OF REGION TO PRODUCE AND USE CAPITAL IN-

TENSIVE MACHINERY AND REAFFIRMS RZEIONAL INTEGRATION AS MEANS OF
FACILITATING ADOPTION OF MORE MODERN TECHNOLOGY. CONCLUDES THAT
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MACHINERY BE ESTABLISHED TI IMPLEMENT LATIN
AMERICAN STRATEGY.

ITEM 2 -- INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER MOVEMENTS -- TWO PROBLEMS RAISED
-- THE COSTS OF MIGRATION OF SKILLED MANPOWER TO DEVELOPED COUN-
TRIES AND THE ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO
FOR PROTECTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS. SUPPORTS AGREEMENTS SUCH AS
THAT EXISTING IN ANDEAN GROUP FOR PROTECTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS.
PROPOSES SOLUTION FOR "BRAIN DRAIN" PROBLEM INCLUDING RECEIVING
COUNTRIES COMPENSATING SENDING COUNTRIES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF RE-
GIONAL MANPOWER INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR PROFAISIONAL AND TECHNICAL
WORKERS.

ITEM 3 -- TECHNOLOGIES FOR PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT -- CONCLUSIONS ON THIS ITEM RUN DIRECTLY COUNTER TO THE ILO EMPHASIS ON DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF INTERMEDIATE OR MORE LABOR INTENSIVE TECHNOLOGIES. CALLS FOR CONTINUED INCORPORATION OF "THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY INTO THEIR ACTIVITIES". CONTRARY TO THE DISCUSSION IN THE MEETING, CONCLUSIONS SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY AND AN INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY UNIT. THE ONLY QUALIFICATION IS THAT IT MUST NOT IN ANY WAY IMPLY ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INSTITUTION. GENERALLY SUPPORTS POSITIONS OF THE GROUP 77 ON SUCH ISSUES AS CODES OF CONDUCTS, PATENTS, AND TRANSFERS OF TECHNOLOGY.

ITEM 4 -- THE ROLE OF TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES (TNCS) -- AGREES TO RATIFY THE LATIN AMERICAN POSITION PRESENTED AT THE UNITED NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS. INCORPORATES LIST OF BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR GUIDING CONDUCT OF TNCS.

ITEM 5 -- ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE POLICIES -- THE FINAL SECTION OF THE CONCLUSIONS GIVES GENERAL SUPPORT TO THE ILO AND PREALC PROGRAMS. CALL FOR CONTINUED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT EM-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BOGOTA 04691 02 OF 02 121903Z

PLOYMENT POLICIES, CARRYING OUT OF STUDIES, SEMINARS, ETC. AND EXPLORATION OF NEW MACHINERY FOR FINANCING EMPLOYMENT POLICIES. VAKY

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